(b) the normal time taken in making reimbursement of medical claims and whether any complaints including from the Members of Parliament have been received for long delays in making reimbursements;

(c) if so, the action taken by Government; and

(d) the number of medical claims submitted before the 10th September, 2003 still pending for a decision and by when these would be finalized and payments made to the claimants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The medical reimbursement claims of CGHS pensioner beneficiaries are cleared within 4 to 6 weeks' time except in those cases which involve relaxation of rules, require the opinion of the Expert Committee; or in the event of budgetary constraints.

Some complaints were received in the recent past for early settlement of the medical claims of CGHS beneficiaries.

(c) The necessary follow-up action has been taken by settling all the said medical claims.

(d) None of the medical claims of CGHS beneficiaries pertaining to the period prior to 10-9-03 are pending with the DGHS except in those cases for which the position has already been explained in reply to (a) and (b) above.

Improvement of cancer and mental health care

541. SHRI B.J. PANDA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to sanction Rs. 60 crores for improvement of cancer and mental health care in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the action plan; and

(c) the details of the proposals to improve health care service in Orissa under the above project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) An outlay of Rs. 285.00 crores for National Cancer Programme (NCCP) and Rs. 190.00 crores for the National Mental Health Programme (NMHP) have been made by the Planning Commission during the 10th Five Year Plan.

The components of National Mental Health Programme and National Cancer Control Programme are as under:—

National Mental Health Programme

- District Mental Health Programme
- Improvement of Government Mental Hospitals
- Upgradation of Psychiatric Wings of Medical Colleges/General Hospitals
- IEC activity
- Research & Training
- Development of Oncology Wing in Medical College Hospital
- Setting up of Cobalt Therapy Unit
- District Cancer Control Programme
- Financial Assistance to Voluntary Organization
- Recognition of Regional Cancer Centres

(c) Under NCCP this Ministry has recognized Acharya Harihar Regional Cancer Centre, Cuttack as a Regional Cancer Centre and an annual grant of Rs. 75.00 lakhs is released to the Institute. In addition to above the grant-in-aid is also released to the State Govt./ NGOs as and when proposals are received under various schemes of NCCP.

As far as NMHP is concerned, proposals have been called for from State Govt. of Orissa, for consideration by the Screening Committee set up for the purpose.

Specialized Therapy Centre of Ayurveda

542. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal from Karnataka to establish specialized therapy center with hospitalization facility for Panchakarma/ Kshar Sutra therapy of Ayurveda;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and